

# Harmony's Wildside Walk



**Program Background:** Decisions made by homeowners ultimately determine whether a community functions as a “green” community. For example, people determine which light bulbs to purchase, what types of vegetation to plant (e.g., exotics vs. natives), how much water to use, and whether to ameliorate their yards for wildlife.



**Summary of Program:** Developed by Dr. Mark Hostetler, wildlife specialist in University of Florida's Dept of Wildlife Ecology & Conservation, Harmony's environmental education program engages homeowners in understanding and implementing natural resource conservation strategies. This program was developed in conjunction with the Harmony Institute and was funded in part by Harmony's Community Development District. The program contains three elements:

- ***Interpretive Kiosks:*** Seven interpretive kiosks have been placed along Harmony's sidewalks along the golf course and in the park. Each of the kiosks contains informative displays that discuss one of seven topics: Water, Energy, Wildlife, Environmental Landscaping, Insects/Pollinators, Lakes, and Natural/Human History. Kiosks are dynamic and different informative panels can be easily changed.
- ***Web Site:*** Living in Harmony Web site was constructed to give detailed environmental information and management strategies pertinent to Harmony.
- ***Brochure:*** A brochure is available for each homeowner. This brochure highlights local natural resource issues pertinent to Harmony and invites homeowners to explore the kiosks and visit the Web site.



**What You Can Do!** Each of these signs needs to be maintained by homeowners. If you see damage to the signs or would like the information panel to be changed, please post on <https://www.facebook.com/HarmonyConservationCafe>.

**DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA** that could be posted on the Web site or the signs? We encourage any ideas – please post on <https://www.facebook.com/HarmonyConservationCafe>.